

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

PURPOSE

- **Develop a coordinated, achievable plan to guide decisions impacting San Antonio's Parks and Recreation System**
- **Integrate pertinent City Master Plan policies and adopted ordinances into ongoing parks and recreation system planning** (i.e. Neighborhood Planning Process, Drainage Regulations Ordinance, Tree Preservation Ordinance, Open Space Plan; Master Plan policy to change UDC to require park land dedication or fees-in-lieu of dedication)
- **Ensure adoption by Texas Parks & Wildlife Department to support statewide efforts to improve Texas' parks and provide a plan as required for both public and private grants.**

GOALS

- **A diversified, balanced city-wide system of facilities based on program needs** (requires acquisition, civic/neighborhood involvement, ongoing evaluation or needs, coordination with other agencies and departments)
- **To conserve and enhance the city's natural, archaeological, cultural, historical, and artistic resources** (includes conservation of floodplains as greenways to connect neighborhoods as well as identification and protection of resources, educational programming)
- **To provide programming to meet community needs** (determine needs of all user groups based on demographics and geographic information; maximize programs not dependent on extensive infrastructure using partnerships; expand and develop programs historically not accessible to all)
- **To maintain and rehabilitate facilities to assure quality service at safe and accessible facilities** (maintenance plans, retrofit and rehabilitate to meet contemporary needs, partnerships with volunteer and community service groups; adequate Park Ranger presence, good signage)

RECOMMENDATIONS

- **To acquire new properties and develop those that are under or undeveloped** (realize greenway and drainage way opportunities; link neighborhoods; dedication of parkland in residential areas; land donations; joint use agreements and other partnerships with public and private entities)
- **To provide programming for both indoor and outdoor recreation** (give special attention to neighborhood needs, targeting program types to address negative social factors such as teen pregnancy, juvenile arrests, and school dropouts; evaluate changing demographics, cost effectiveness of youth-at-risk and prevention programs, and facility availability, partnering with others to assure flexible, mobile programming)
- **Renovate existing structures and facilities** (utilize preventative maintenance; evaluate cost of renovation v. new construction; renovate based on use and capacity of facilities)
- **Implement ongoing maintenance and safety programs to assure quality experience to the public and best application of limited resources** (utilize system-wide maintenance plan, best management practices, decentralization and volunteer and community service opportunities)

FUNDING SOURCES

- **G.O. Bonds** (1999 Bond Election and beyond)
- **CDBG Funding**
- **Private grants and donations**
- **Federal and State matching grants**
- **Annual O & M Budget**

To maximize resources, Drainage Regulations, multi-use easements, partnerships with other City and external agencies, residential park land dedication will also be used.